

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 02327 022127Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
HA-05 /073 W  
-----002288 022131Z /21

P R 022100Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4385  
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PORG, DR  
SUBJECT: ELECTION OBSERVERS

REF SANTO DOMINGO 1440

1. MAY 1 PRESS CARRIES ACCOUNTS OF SPEECH BY PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DOMINICANO SECGEN PENA GOMEZ IN WHICH HE ANNOUNCED INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF "ELECTION OBSERVERS" WILL BE ARRIVING HERE DIRECTLY.

2. IN GROUP, HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING, WOULD BE MRS CORETTA KING, WIDOW OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, "THAT GIANT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE RIGHTS OF BLACK NORTHAMERICANS," AND "THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA" (SIC). PENA ADDED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLIC PARTIES OF THE US, THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL, LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL, AND THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WOULD BE INCLUDED IN OBSERVER GROUP.

3. REPORTS ALSO QUOTE PENA TO EFFECT ARRANGEMENTS FOR OBSERVERS BEING HANDLED BY TWO MEMBERS OF PRD CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, EMILIO LUDOVINO FERNANDEZ, NOW IIN WASHINGTON, AND HATUEY DE CAMPS, WHO IS IN EUROPE. PENA GAVE NO SPECIFIC ARRIVAL DATE FOR GROUP.

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4. HIS REFERENCE TO THEIR PROMPT ARRIVAL APPARENTLY CAME UP WHEN HE SPOKE OF PRD'S WELL-PLACED FOREIGN FRIENDS WHO CAN BE EXPECTED TO "MOBILIZE" IF THERE IS A "GOLPE" TO FRUSTRATE PARTY'S COMING TO POWER. ANY SUCH MOVE, HE ADDED, "WILL COLLIDE VIOLENTLY WITH THE PEOPLE." PENA'S COMMENTS SEEMED TO REFLECT INCREASING PUBLIC ATTENTION TO POSSIBILITIES OF FRAUD OR OTHER

INTERVENTION IN THE ELECTION PROCESS.

5. WHILE PENA APPEARED NOT TO MENTION GODR'S FORMAL REQUEST TO OAS FOR OBSERVER DEL TO COME HERE PRIOR TO MAY 16 ELECTION, AUGUSTO LORA, CANDIDATE OF "UNITED OPPOSITION" PARTIES, EXPRESSED HIMSELF IN SANTIAGO NEWSPAPER AS OPPOSED TO OAS "SUPERVISION" OF DOMINICAN ELECTORAL PROCESS. CERTAIN FORMS OF FRAUD BY THE RULING REFORMISTA PARTY HAVE BEEN OCCURRING SINCE PRES BALAGUER ANNOUNCED HIS REELECTION CANDIDACY, LORA QUOTED AS SAYING, SO ANY OAS INTERVENTION AT THIS LATE DATE WOULD BE COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY IN HIS VIEW.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: PENA'S REPORTED COMMENTS APPEAR UNEQUIVOCAL. SINCE OBSERVERS WOULD HAVE TO BE HERE SOON, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO DEPT CAN PROVIDE REGARDING US VISITORS WHO MIGHT BE SEEN HERE AS HAVING SOME CONNECTION TO USG. WE PLAN NO FURTHER INQUIRY HERE IN THE MEANTIME BUT WE ARE CONCERNED AT THE POTENTIAL FOR DIFFICULTY IF PRESIDENT BALAGUER HEWS TO THE LINE HE TOOK WITH AMBASSADOR HURWITCH PER REFTEL, I.E., THAT HE WOULD ONLY INVITE OAS OBSERVERS AND WOULD NOT PERMIT OTHERS TO COME (REFTEL).

YOST

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION OBSERVATION TEAM, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 SANTO DOMINGO 1440  
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**Review Markings:**  
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